Read to Achieve
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Testing Requirements

1. **Which test(s) can be offered to grade 3 students who did not meet the Read to Achieve (RtA) requirements after the regular (i.e., first) administration of the End-of-Grade (EOG) Reading Test?**
   Following the regular (i.e., first) administration of the EOG Reading Test, students who did not meet the RtA requirements may be administered the Grade 3 EOG Reading Retest and/or the RtA Test. This testing must occur within the end-of-year, ten-day testing window.

2. **Can schools provide more than one testing opportunity following the regular administration of the EOG Reading Test?**
   Yes, schools can provide more than one testing opportunity (i.e., EOG Reading Retest, RtA Test). Each test can only be administered once within the testing window. If a school elects to administer the Grade 3 EOG Reading Retest, students must be retested on an EOG Reading test form that was not taken previously.

3. **If a parent does not want his/her student retested following the regular EOG Reading Test, can the parent request his/her student not test?**
   Yes, a parent can request that his/her student not be tested. A student does not have to take the EOG Reading Retest or RtA Test.

4. **If a student does not take the EOG Reading Retest or RtA Test, and does not go to reading camp, is the student automatically retained in the third grade and taught the third-grade curriculum?**
   No, if a parent decides not to send the student to reading camp, then the student is eligible to come back and take the RtA Test and/or SBE-approved alternative assessment at the end of reading camp along with the other students. However, the student does not have to attempt the test(s). Students are never automatically placed back into the third grade. The principal makes the decision at the end of reading camp where to place the student for the next school year. Most students go on to the 3/4 transitional or 4th grade accelerated class unless they are low in other content areas.

5. **A grade 3 student qualified for an Individualized Education Program (IEP) after the EOG Reading Test and now qualifies for a good cause exemption. Can the student receive an exemption?**
   No, an IEP must be in place before the student takes the EOG Reading Test to qualify for a good cause exemption.

Student Reading Portfolio

6. **Do 3/4 transitional or 4th grade accelerated students continue working on the portfolio? Does the portfolio carry over to 4th grade?**
   Yes, students in the 3/4 transitional or 4th grade accelerated classes may continue to work on the portfolio that was started during third grade.

7. **Can instructional passages from the portfolio be used for all students in a third-grade class?**
   Yes, instructional passages can be used for close reading. Teachers should always align the use of the instructional passages with the standard being taught. Asking students to read passages independently, particularly if they are reading significantly below a third-grade reading level, will not benefit students.

8. **Are the portfolio's instructional and assessment passages available for students who are learning virtually?**
   No, the portfolio's instructional and assessment passages are not available for students learning virtually. The passages contain copyrighted information and cannot be administered to students during remote learning (e.g., during virtual platform, screen sharing) or sent home for students to complete.

9. **Can schools send the portfolio's released passages home for students learning virtually?**
   Yes, released passages are available for public use. Released passages may be copied or uploaded to a virtual platform.

PowerSchool Codes

10. **How is the RtA status coded in PowerSchool?**
    To ensure entry of the Retention-Reading code in PowerSchool, the test coordinator provides the data manager with a list of any student(s) who have not attained RtA proficiency at the end of reading camp. The record needs to reflect the student has a Reading Retained code within PowerSchool. The Reading Retained code is given if a student does not demonstrate third grade RtA proficiency at the end of reading camp.

11. **When is the RtA status coded in PowerSchool?**
    The Retention-Reading label can be entered in PowerSchool any time after reading camp, preferably before September 1, to facilitate reports to the General Assembly and fall RtA eligibility determinations.

12. **If a school learns that the RtA status in PowerSchool was incorrect as of the date of student transfer, can the receiving public school unit or charter school modify the RtA status?**
    Yes, the RtA status must be corrected. When a school receives a fourth-grade student, personnel should be very aware of the RtA legislation and check with the previous school about placement. The results of the third-grade EOG Reading Test should be in all cumulative records. If a student is not proficient, then the student should have a reading retained label unless the parents or the previous school can provide evidence of a passing marker after the regular (i.e., first) administration of the EOG Reading Test.